Rs1.5m theft committed in Khairpur's high security zone

By Our Correspondent

SUKKUR: Thieves on Friday night cut off power supply to the Sindh Boy Scouts Headquarters Stadium — paces away from the Khairpur jail, Madadgar-15 Centre and SSP House — to steal electricity cables worth over Rs1.5m.

The theft left the stadium, the streetlights within its vicinity and the adjacent neighbourhood without electricity. The locality falls within the high-security zone, which houses the prison, law enforcers' offices and their residences.

According to Mushtaq Ali Arejo, the divisional organiser of the Scouts Headquarters, this was not the first incident of its kind in this area, rather a third one in the near past. No culprit of these criminal acts could have been arrested, he lamented, raising a serious question about performance of the A-Section police of Khairpur.

Instead of catching the culprits, the police have detained security guards of the stadium, he deplored.

Family trussed up, robbed

SUKKUR: Three armed robbers on Saturday morning barged into a home in Shikarpur and tied up hands and feet of family members to comfortably collect and take away the cash and valuables present inside.

Head of the family, Ali Qureshi, later told police and media personnel that the robbers took away gold ornaments, mobile phones and cash amounting to millions of rupees.

The house is located in the Bara Kamangar Haveli locality, falling within the jurisdiction of the Lakhi Dar police station of Shikarpur.

Qureshi said that the robbers scaled the outer wall to enter the house at around 8am.

"After tying up our hands and feet at gunpoint, they blindfolded all of us … they also removed my wife's gold bangles to add them to the booty," he said.

In their attempt to break the locks of cupboards, almirahs and safe, they ransacked the furniture, he added.

Soon after the incident, police visited the house and ascertained details. They took into their custody a pair of shoes left by one of the robbers, believing that it would help probers find a clue to the robbers. —Correspondent

Irrigation infrastructure must be made climate resilient, says CM

Reviews progress of Sukkur Barrage gates' replacement work

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Saturday reiterated his government's commitment to strengthening the irrigation system. Describing water management as the backbone of Sindh's agriculture sector, he said: "In order to achieve self-sufficiency in food and boost exports, we must modernise and make our irrigation infrastructure resilient against climate challenges," he stated.

The CM was chairing a meeting of his cabinet ministers and aides at CM House to review progress of work on ongoing irrigation and agriculture projects in the province.

He directed the departments concerned to ensure timely completion of the projects, strictly adhere to the quality and standards, and diligently monitor the workmanship. He highlighted the importance of these project in ensuring food security and economic stability.

He also underscored a comprehensive approach to addressing concerns related to the irrigation infrastructure and agricultural production in the province.

The meeting was attended by provincial ministers Sharjeel Inam Memon, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Saeed Ghani, Jam Khan Shoro, Ziaul Hassan Lanjar, Karachi Mayor Barrister Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Chairman Planning & Development (P&D) Najam Shah, Karachi Commissioner Hassan Naqvi, Home Secretary Iqbal Memon, Finance Secretary Fayaz Jatoi, Irrigation Secretary Zarif Khero, P&D Director General Altaf Sario and others.

THE KB Feeder.—Umair Ali

Jam Khan Shoro briefed the CM on the ongoing and upcoming projects, including the critical task of replacing 27 gates of the Sukkur Barrage during the current canal closure period. This upgrade is aimed at preventing water flow disruptions during peak crop seasons and ensuring a sustained water supply for millions of farmers, he said.

The government has already initiated work on 25 gates, with the focus on completing all replacements within the stipulated time.

CM Shah emphasised that the "Sukkur Barrage is the lifeline of Sindh's agriculture and, therefore, its rehabilitation must be a top priority. He also directed increasing the scope of the rehabilitation to cover all the 27 gates".

Stressing timely completion of the work, he warned that any delay could severely impact regional food security and water availability.

The CM also reviewed progress of work for the lining of vital KB Feeder for K-IV, a project designed to augment Karachi's water supply by 50 per cent. He noted that 60 per cent work has been completed and the remaining work would expectedly be finished by the end of January.

He expressed his concern over partial completion of the project and instructed that at least 70 per cent of the work be completed during the current canal closure to ensure adequate water flow, reduction in losses and catering the urban and industrial requirement.

Canal desilting, maintenance

The CM emphasised the importance of desilting and regular maintenance of canals to improve conveyance efficiency and water distribution fairness.

Desilting of Akram Wah, being carried out with World Bank funding, is underway and awaiting approval, with other canal projects progressing rapidly.

The CM called for a accelerated efforts to prevent water shortages during the upcoming crop season.

He directed the P&D and Finance departments to expedite fund releases and closely monitor project progress, expenditures, and quality standards. He warned against delays and substandard work, stressing that water security, agricultural productivity, and urban water supply are interconnected and crucial for the province's overall stability.

The chief minister concluded by instructing the departments to submit detailed progress reports on all projects and emphasised that accountability would be done for any delays or quality issues.—APP

MPC plans movement against lawlessness in Shahdadkot

By Our Correspondent

LARKANA: A multi-party conference organised by Qambar-Shahdadkot's Shehri Ittehad on Saturday expressed its grave concern over deteriorating law and order situation in in Shahdadkot and other talukas of the district.

It noted that criminals were committing street and organised crimes, including theft, robbery, armed assault etc at their whim.

The conference, chaired by the alliance's President, Wahab Pandrani, was convened to devise a joint strategy by all stakeholders to address the issue effectively.

Representatives of various political, religious and social organisations and the NGOs concerned presented and discussed their proposals during the proceedings.

They strongly criticised the "inaction" on the part of law-enforcement agencies despite a surge in crime across various talukas of the district.

They also slammed the elected representatives' lack of interest and their indifferent attitude in ensuring protection of citizens' life and property.

In the light of the participants' proposals, it was decided to set up a 20-member action committee to press the authorities concerned to take urgent and effective measures towards maintaining law and order across the affected areas.

The conference also announced the launch of a phased protest movement from Monday (Jan 12) against lawlessness and failure of law enforcers in controlling crime.

The movement will begin with the submission of a memorandum with the Qambar-Shahdadkot SSP and holding of a street protest. On the following day, a hunger strike would be observed and on Friday, a voluntary shutterdown strike would be held in Shahdadkot.

Speakers at the conference demanded arrest of all criminals who were on the run in different cases and incidents, besides immediate measures to restore peace and ensure protection of citizens' life and property.

Death toll in Larkana cylinder blast tops six

By Our Correspondent

LARKANA: A two-year-old boy, Mohammad Wasey, who had sustained critical burns in the Dec 16 gas cylinder blast in Luhar Colony, lost his struggle for life on Saturday.

He had been under treatment in the burns ward of Karachi's Civil Hospital, the bereaved family said.

It was the sixth death in the tragic incident.

The cylinder explosion had completely destroyed three houses and partially damaged two others. It had also left 19 people injured. The victims had to be taken out from under the debris of the houses, which had also caught fire and caused burn injuries to members of five/six families.

Thirteen of the injured are still under treatment at different hospitals in Larkana and Karachi.

The Sindh police chief has already constituted a three-member committee of senior police officers to investigate the incident, which not only caused loss of many precious lives but also collapse of several houses.

Man dragged out of van, shot dead

By Our Correspondent

MIRPURKHAS: Unknown armed men boarded a passenger van, dragged out a youth and shot him dead along Ring Road within the limits of the Mehran police station on Saturday.

The victim, Shaman Ali, was a resident of Peero Mal village of Sanghar district.

The killers escaped from the area after committing the crime, the police said.

The body was transported to the Mirpurkhas District Headquarters Hospital for a postmortem examination and then handed over to the heirs.

OBITUARY

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

With profound grief we announce the demise of our beloved

SHAMIMA JAFRI

WIFE OF LATE HAMID JAFRI

On 9th January 2026

Namaz e Janaza will be offered Today **Sunday 11th January 2026** after **Zuhr prayers (1.30pm)** at **Masjid-e-Tariq,** Navy Housing Scheme, Zamzama, Clifton.

Children: Afshan Jafri, Khurram and Kanwal Jafri, Samira and Fazal Siddiqi

Grandchildren: Ali Danial and Shamain, Maheen and Saad, Areeb, Jahanzeb and Juliana, Ayla, and Danya.

Great Grandchildren: Danyal, Ayra, Ilhan, Norisha Zaydan, and Elena.

D-19, Navy Housing Scheme, Zamzama, Clifton, Karachi

Phone # 021-35876848 / 0324-2000147

OBITUARY

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our

Mohammad Ali Siddiqui

S/O Mohammad Shafique Siddiqui

On the 9th January 2026

Burial took place on 10th January at graveyard Phase 8 DHA Karachi.

Dua will be held on Sunday, 11th January 2026 between Asr and Maghrib.

Address: 46 Khayaban-e-Mujahid, 30th Street, Phase 5, Karachi

Mourners

Siddiqui and Ansari Family

Fahad Siddiqui 03008282558

Omeir and Zoya Ansari 03002118595

Ashraf Ali and Beena Siddiqui 03062824241

IN MEMORIAM

SHABNAM TAJIK

WHO LEFT US SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO TODAY

OUR EYES MAY NOT SEE YOU ANYMORE
BUT IN OUR HEARTS YOU REMAIN FOREVER
YOUR LOVE WILL ALWAYS BE A PART OF WHO WE ARE

SHERJAN TAJIK
SAMIR, SABA & DANIYAL TAJIK
TAIMUR & AMELIA TAJIK
NASREEN BAIG
NARGIS NASIR KHAN

IN PROFOUND REMEMBRANCE

and fond memory of our father

PROFESSOR AHMED ALI

July 1, 1908 — January 14, 1994

Scholar, writer, poet, translator, diplomat: Co-founder Progressive Writers Movement & Association and Pioneer PAK-CHINA diplomatic relations & friendship

It was but only yesterday
The Oriole had charmed
My ears, the plums
And peach blossoms the eyes,
The clear blue skies the soul.

— Ahmed Ali

ERAM, OROOJ, DEED & SHAHANA

REYAN: Great grandchildren & Catalina & Rafael Ahmed Ali

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Ph: 021-38771111
Ext: 2622 (09:00am - 09:00pm)

DMC Campus:
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Baba-e-Urdu Road
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Online submission of applications is mandatory.
The application form can be downloaded from the DUHS website:
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Application processing fee is to be paid online only. The fee is non-refundable and non-adjustable. A hard copy of the form, along with the paid fee receipt and required documents, should be submitted at the Meezan Bank both at Dow Medical College (DMC), Karachi.